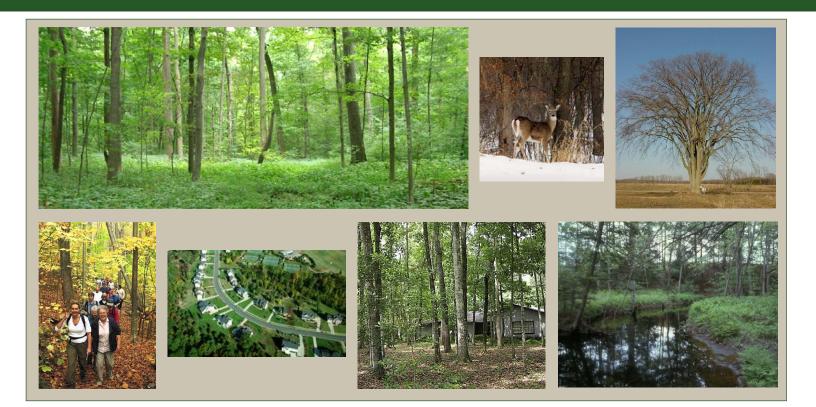
TREE AND WOODLAND PROTECTION



PURPOSE & HIGHLIGHTS OF ORDINANCE

- Trees are an important natural resource that offer both environmental and aesthetic benefits for people, animals, and plants. They produce oxygen, provide wildlife habitat, improve water quality, prevent erosion, moderate temperature, reduce air and noise pollution, enhance aesthetics and property values, and are an important contributor to community image, pride, and quality of life.
- The goal of tree and woodlands preservation ordinances is to provide for the protection, preservation, and proper maintenance of trees and woodlands in order to prevent damage to them so they may continue to provide their many benefits. The ordinance should encourage creative design and construction techniques that will preserve as many trees, both as individuals or as woodland areas. The ordinance should prohibit the unnecessary removal of trees on undeveloped land and discourage the unnecessary removal of trees and woodland resources in connection with the development of land.
- To enhance the effectiveness, the ordinance should be supported by the goals and objectives of a community's Master Plan. Protection efforts can be reinforced and enhanced by integrating woodland/tree standards and regulations into requirements for landscaping and/or site plan review.

Inventories, maps, and other information on a community's tree resources can be used to identify areas of priority protection and to measure the effectiveness of the ordinance based on the change in tree resources over time.